CANTERBURY VETERAN ATHLETICS

25 The First Years

1962–1987

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CANTERBURY VETERAN ATHLETICS
THE FIRST 25 YEARS

FOREWORD

The chief aim of this booklet is to capture something on record of the happenings of the veteran athletic scene in Canterbury over the first 25 years. Virtually a Triple Jump.

Hop.....from Beginnings

Step.....through the years

Jump.....to the present day

Time does not permit a full account to be written suffice is to say we owe a debt of gratitude to the foundation members for from a firm beginning the movement has grown steadily and has given pleasure to many people not only on the sporting field but with friends of similar interests, nationally and worldwide.

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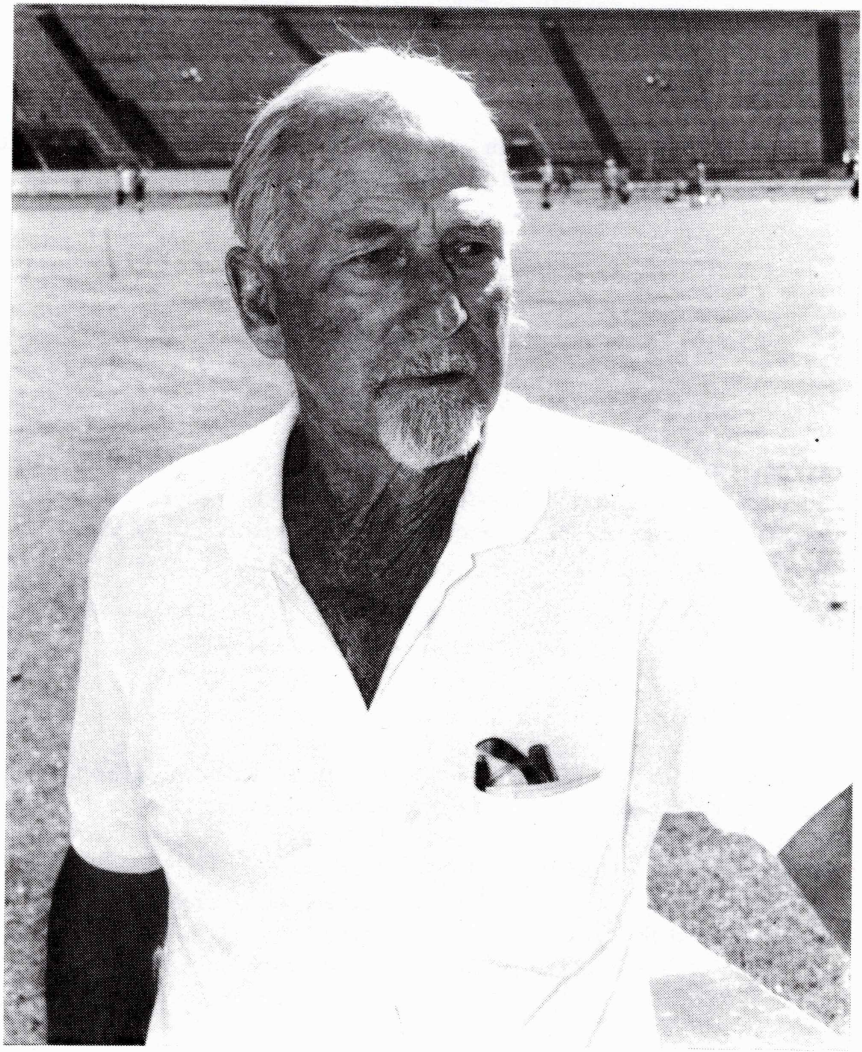


PATRON

Mr Clarrie C. Gordon

PATRONS LETTER

PATRON: Mr Clarrie C. Gordon

It gives me great pleasure to let members know something of how the club started.

In 1959 I read in an English newspaper of an 82 year old Joe Deakin who was running in Veterans there. I wrote to him and his reply encouraged me to endeavour to start something for veterans here. I kept in touch with Joe for a number of years until his death nearing his 90's.

I wrote to all clubs in Canterbury on the 20th June 1960. Some were cool to the idea of forming a **'Veterans Club'** and remained so for a number of years. However a few chaps rallied round and we had two early informal meetings in the Canterbury Museum workshop where Bill Dukes was on the staff. Bill was an ex Canterbury Walk Champion. The meeting held on the 15th May 1962 at Christ College set the seal for the formation of the Veteran Runners Club. Mr J. Deakin of London graciously accepted the position of Patron. Running before 1900 he was badly injured in the Boer War and was told he would never run again. Proving the experts wrong he continued running winning about 400 trophies and being a member of the British Olympic team in 1908 who won the 3-mile teams race.

The club has had few secretaries over the years. Tom Bain was the first, followed by Alan Rodger who did a great job as letter writing goes. George Currie held office after the death of Alan and I must thank Tom and George for their support. I did the table thumping!

It was an uphill battle for a number of years as you can read from the early history of the club. We wanted to give chaps a run in races who otherwise would have missed out in their own club teams. We did win one Port Hills Relay and one Big Block Relay in the early years. We were given permission for athletes to run in a Veterans team as long as they were not wanted for their club team, it had first call which is only right.

1966 was our BIG YEAR - being recognised as a registered Club...we were on our way.

From the first National Cross Country Champs in 1971 things started to move New Zealand wide. Thanks to Clem Green for the work he has put in over the years.

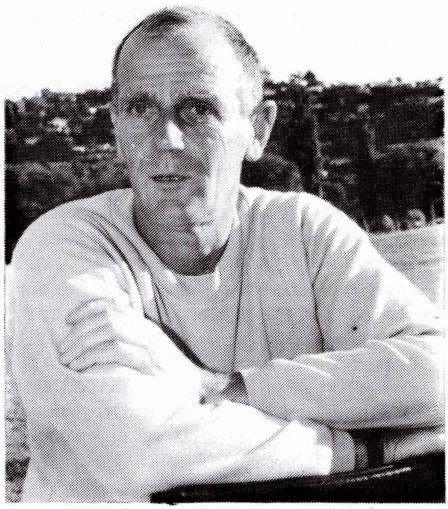
It was at the 2nd Cross Country Championships at Dunedin that a New Zealand Council member at the evening function asked me to keep the movement nice and friendly and I'm pleased to say such is the case. I only wish I was able to have a run with the'oldies' but it is not to be. Incidently I held the Up Hill Lap record in the Akaroa race in the early years and now hold it on elbow crutches! Have done it three times up and one down hill, the last was in 1986 at nearly 81 years of age.

I get a lot of enjoyment acting as an official and meeting old and new friends - men and women. I am calling athletes to the mark, some of whom I knew as juniors, 40 years ago. A few have dropped out, others come back to join the veteran ranks.

In closing I would like to thank all past and present members for carrying on the good work for the Vets. Good running.

Clarrie Gordon

PRESIDENTS REPORT



Well fellow competitors and supporters the 1987 season is well on its way. We have been having some very good attendances at our track and field meetings. Also there have been excellent performances put up, with several Canterbury, South Island, New Zealand and World Records being broken. This has been very encouraging and hopefully it will carry on into the future. 1987 promises to be a big year. In May we celebrate 25 years of Veteran Athletics in Canterbury, and we will celebrate with a dinner and dance to commemorate this milestone so I hope you can give your support. It has not been an easy 25 years as in the early days there was a lot of opposition to having Veteran athletics accepted and even now there are some who still do not like the idea of "Golden Oldies" running, and competing in field events.

But on the bright side, we are firmly established with in excess of 300 members, and I am sure we have a lot to offer competitors. In closing I would like to wish everyone well and hope you all keep on enjoying the Veteran Scene.

Peter Watts, President of the Canterbury Veteran Athletics Association.

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The sentiments expressed in this booklet could find an echo in the hearts of all Veteran Athletes as we enter the second quartile of our sports existence.

In the inevitability of revolutionary changes in the year ahead it is to be hoped that there will always be men and women of high integrity imbibed with ideals to provide the leadership for our sport to continue and flourish.

25 years have passed

Giving us a record that will last

With gratitude we've reflected

On our founders who elected

With all their efforts to employ

Establishing a sport we all enjoy.

We reflect with gratitude the work of the founders in establishing Veteran Athletics in Canterbury. With sincere thanks to all who have helped in the past we look forward with added strength and enjoyment to the years ahead.

20TH JUNE 1960

143 Peverel Street
Christchurch W. 1.

Dear Sir,

Over the past few years I have felt that there has been a need for a Club of an Association for older non or active athletes - Something to stop them from drifting away from the sport that they so much enjoyed over the years.

I have been corresponding with an 82 year old English competing athlete and it was he that suggested that I form such a club, as he is in one himself.

I have decided to do something about it and I hope through you I could contact any old members who would be interested in this venture.

You may be new to the sport, but I am sure there would be someone in your Club who would be able to help out. Too many of these older members lose contact with the sport when they could be most useful in helping out as officials at big meetings.

I suggest that the age of 40 years or over be set.

I would like you to treat this as fairly urgent as the season is getting on.

Thanking you, Yours faithfully,

C. C. Gordon

C. C. GORDON

CANTERBURY VETERAN ATHLETICS

.....The Beginnings....

15th May 1962 ... A meeting was called for those interested in forming a group for veteran runners. Several persons attended with three apologies. The meeting, held at Christ College decided that a group be formed and called "The Canterbury Veteran Runners Association". Membership to be open to 40 year olds and over.

Officers elected

Patron: Mr J. Deakin of London - A member of a similar veterans group in England.
President: Mr Clarrie C. Gordon.
Secretary: Mr T. H. Bain
Treasurer: Mr A.V. Rodger

Objects

(1) To promote activities for older harriers to compete in such fixtures run by the Cross Country Committee as is possible and compete as a team when possible.
(2) It was not the Association's intention to take members from their own Club activities.
(3) To act as Officials when required for inter-club and other events.

It was felt that the formation of the Association would be a means of encouraging a continuing interest in the Centre's administrative and running activities among senior members of Clubs who may otherwise be lost to the sport.

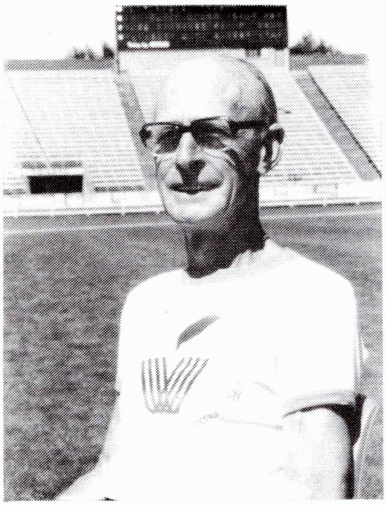
Uniform: A member running as a veteran in any fixture should wear his club uniform with a suitable addition to indicate his Veteran status.

Executive Meeting 3rd July 1962...The President, Mr C.C. Gordon reported back on the Canterbury Centre's view with regard to the formation of the Veterans Association as outlined to the Centre in a letter of 21st May 1962. No decision was made and the letter was not favourably received by some Centre delegates.

Entry in Akaroa Relay...It was moved by W. Dukes seconded A. Rodger that a letter be written to C.C.C.C.'s half Annual Meeting requesting permission to enter a Veterans Team in the Akaroa Relay on 8.9.1962.

Subscriptions: It was decided to hold the matter in obeyance meantime. Any finance required would be covered by donations from members.

It was suggested that a Veterans afternoon run be held with a social evening to follow. A photograph of members to be taken.



1st Secretary

T. Bain

1st Patron

Mr J. Deakin

Foundation Members

W. Dukes, C. Gordon, T.Bain

2nd A.G.M. 7 March 1963

Officers elected
President: Mr C.C. Gordon
Secretary: Mr A. Rodger
Treasurer: Mr T Bain
Committee: Messrs W. Dukes, L. Fox and E. Griffith.

Re: Recognition of Veterans Association
A letter was to be sent to the C.C.C. Centre requesting that the application for recognition and for a Veterans grading in suitable Centre fixtures be heard at the A.G.M. on 12.3.1963.

Report from meeting held on 20.8.1963: The President (Mr C.C. Gordon) reported that the Presbyterian Club's remit re Veterans Association at the A.G.M. of the Cross Country Committee had resulted in a meeting being held of the Association's representatives and executive members of the C.C.C.C. The response of the C.C.'s executive has not been helpful as the matter of recognition had been side tracked and the executive had written giving assent to a Veterans Grade in the Halswell and Canterbury Championship races, only.

The Canterbury Cross Country Committee were obviously not disposed towards assisting the Veterans Association by giving it official recognition and were also strongly against composite teams for events and therefore would not prejudice itself by allowing veteran teams to be entered in the Takahe - Akaroa race. Nine veterans competed in the Halswell race and interest was added by dividing into two groups (teams) headed by Messrs F. Sharp & C.C. Gordon. The Presbyterian Club had sponsored a further remit to the delegates half-yearly meeting of the C.C.C.C. ..."that combined teams be allowed to compete in teams events subject to not being eligible for official placing or trophies". This had resulted in spirited debate and the motion was lost by one vote. The result still awaited clarification as the voting included executive committee members, not delegates. In the meantime and because of the close voting and obvious growing support for the Veterans Association the C.C.C.C. had issued an invitation to the Association to enter a team in the Takahe-Akaroa Relay.

The Secretary (Mr A. Rodger) reported that the Chairman of C.C.C.C. had suggested an avenue of approach to the Annual General Meeting of Canterbury Centre of N.Z.A.A.A. for the Association with the Centre under Rule 23 (Section C) and that the Presbyterian Club would forward a suitable notice of motion to be heard at the above mentioned meeting.

Financial Report

Statement of Receipts and Payments 1962-1963

Receipts-Donations by Members	£4.10.0	Payments-General Expenses	1.0.0
		Donation to C.C.	
		1 page Akaroa programme	3.10.0
	£4.10.0		£4.10.0

THE CANTERBURY VETERAN RUNNERS ASSOCIATION

WISHES ALL RUNNERS, ALL TEAMS, ALL CLUBS AND ASSOCIATED OFFICIALS GOOD CONDITIONS, GOOD RUNNING AND THE BEST OF LUCK

Especially to the undermentioned veterans who are running for their respective Clubs:—

G. C. CURRIE (Marist)
L. E. FOX (Olympic)
B. GRIFFITH (Marist)
E. R. GRIFFITHS (Baptist)
L. C. RICHARDS (Olympic)
F. R. SHARP (Marist)

And subject to requirements on the day is very pleased to nominate the following veterans' team as an invitation entry:—

Lap 1: F. Goldsmith (Oympic)
Lap 2: A. Wayman (Methodist)
Lap 3: A. V. Rodger (Presby.)
Lap 4: F. W. Dukes (Presby.)
Lap 5: T. H. Bain (Christchurch)
Lap 6: D. Jackson (Presbyterian)
Lap 7: F. R. Sharp (Marist)
Lap 8: C. C. Gordon (Presby.)

DID YOU KNOW . . .

—**That the Association** was formed in May, 1962 and membership is open to all runners of 40 years or over and that there should be a lot more such chaps still in the sport than what there are, as runners, as officials or both.

—**That to help** overcome this the Association wants to do a good job in supporting **the individual runner** and **his Club** and **the Centre** by encouraging runners to keep going for as long as they feel able. There are a number of such groups overseas doing just that.

—**That the Association** gives a firm assurance that club requirements have prior claim and will always be respected.

—**That recognition of the Association** is to be voted upon at the September Annual Meeting of the Canterbury branch of the New Zealand Amateur Athletic Association and the Association hopes that your Club delegates will be there fully and properly informed, whatever their views.

—**That the Association** will send a representative to any meeting that wishes to know more of its aims. Phone 69-607 evenings for prompt attention.

—**That this advertisement** is inserted by the Association as a donation towards Centre Funds and to help the welfare of our sport and true understanding of the Association's aims .

A. V. RODGER,
Secretary, C.V.R.A.

Missing Record of Meetings... Annual Meetings were held in 1964 and 1965 but the Secretary's notes were never transcribed to the Minute Book. This advice supplied by Mr George Currie 28.1.1962.

22nd June 1966 Meeting ... After preliminary discussion covering the activities of the Canterbury Veteran Runners Association since its formation on 15.5.1962, the requirements for the affiliation and formation of a Veteran Amateur Athletes Club were outlined to those present. Mr Griffith moved/seconded Mr Fox and it was agreed "that when the 12 new members required become available, a Veteran Athletes Club be formed". Mr Rodger advised that 14 new members had been recruited and in addition 18 members of existing Clubs (inclusive of those 8 present at the meeting) were interested in the formation of such a Club. This proposed membership should fulfill affiliation requirements. A draft constitution in short form was examined in detail and after discussion and amendment it was agreed that it should be adopted as the basis for the Club constitution.

It was agreed that the subscription for the inaugural year be set at ten shillings. The secretary was required to prepare the documents necessary and proceed with the affiliation of the Club with the Canterbury Centre N.Z.A.A.A. The president (Mr C. Gordon) thanked those present for their attendance and support of veteran activities over the past five years which had enabled this most satisfactory stage to come to pass.

Financial Report on the 27th April 1967 showed a credit balance of £1.8.8. plus entry fee five shillings. The annual sub to remain at ten shillings. The second AGM of the Canterbury Veteran Athletes Club set down for 30th April 1968 was adjourned as a quorum was not present. Notices calling for an AGM to be held on the 21st May 1968 were to be circulated by the secretary (Mr A. Rodger). This meeting was duly held on the appointed date with 9 members present and 3 apologies sustained.

Whilst the finances were in a satisfactory state it was agreed that a careful watch should be made on any expenditure. Mr E. R. Griffith offered to meet the cost of purchasing and stencilling up to a dozen singlets which would be available to new members as an additional source of income. Mr W. Hobbs spoke of means of creating greater interest by offering Veteran Grades in races stressing that the Club should pursue a policy of persuading the Centre and other clubs to put such races into their programmes. The secretary was requested to draw up a remit (suitably worded) for the half AGM of the C.C.C.C. endeavouring to have veteran teams all graded 'C' Grade standard, that is if the committee were of that opinion.

The average attendance at the annual general meetings over the next five years 1969 - 1973 under the presidentship of Mr C. C. Gordon was 8.4. From an initial Veterans Club in Christchurch, a National Cross Country event was proposed in 1970 and held the following year in Wellington. General permission was given by the AAA Harrier Sub-Committee and the Wellington Centre with the proviso that no NZAAA Officials were used, the course used did not conflict with that of the National event and that veterans be clear of the venue by 11am.

Trophy Presented: At the AGM on 27.4.1971 considerable discussion took place on the method of selecting the winner of a trophy presented to the club by Don Cameron of the Baptist Harrier Club for annual competition. The following conditions were agreed upon...

1. The trophy would be known as the Clarrie Gordon Veterans Trophy

2. That in order to encourage as many veteran runners as possible to compete for the trophy points be allocated to each veteran on a handicap basis, competing in 5 or 6 inter-club races during the season.

3. The selected races were... Jane Patterson
   Skellerup Steeples
   Canterbury Championships
   Governors Bay - Lyttelton
   Kaiapoi - Christchurch Road Race
   Holloway Memorial

4. Clubs be invited to nominate runners as entrants.

5. Handicapping to be arranged by Centre handicapper.

The Annual General Meeting 25th April 1972 was held at the home of Mr K. Jago 442 Hagley Avenue. All previous meetings had been held in the St Andrews Hall but as the building had now been transferred to the North Canterbury Hospital Board a new venue would be sought.

National Veteran Championships.... Mr W. Hobbs moved that a letter be sent to Mr C. L. Green (National Veteran Coordinator) suggesting that the question of making Veteran Championships "Official" in future be placed on the agenda for discussion.

In Memoriem ... It was with genuine regret that the President reported the death of the Club Patron Mr J. Deakin of England aged 90 years and a mark of respect was observed in silence. Mr Deakin was a veteran of the Boer War, competed in 1908 Olympics in the 3 mile teams race event and held over 400 trophies. As a member of a similar group in England he had agreed to be Patron for the Canterbury Veterans Club from its inception as the Canterbury Veteran Runners Association formed in May 1962.

It was noted that a busy year was ahead for the Club.

The first International Veterans event to be held was at Rawhiti Domain New Brighton, January 1974 just prior to the 10th Commonwealth Games. This was an outstanding success, attracting a large number of competitors (a sprinkling were from overseas) and an attendance of 2000 spectators.

The National Veteran Championships were to be held in Christchurch 29-30th March 1975. There was need for a sub-committee to run the National Championships. It was noted that newspapers were not now publishing general results but went for local and current events interest stories, community and general health features. Mr. M. Poulton undertook to liaise with the Cross Country Committee to publicise activities for veterans in connection with forthcoming events. At the well attended AGM held on 2nd May 1974 Mr C. Gordon presided over an attendance of 17 members with apologies sustained from a further 11 persons. A sub-committee consisting of M. Poulton (Chairman), D. Cameron, G.Currie, G.F. Hack, A.W. Mahan and W. Rollo and Mrs Smith had been appointed at a special meeting held earlier in the year for the purpose of organising the National Veteran Champs. Mr M. Poulton reported of the success and thanks for the organising of the first National Veteran Championship in Christchurch.

Women Veterans - A survey had been carried out and a great majority of women contact favoured 35 years as a commencement age for veteran women. It was moved by M. Poulton, seconded A. Grayburn that in the meantime events for veteran women be arranged W35 onwards. Pre Vet women 30-34 years of age. Mr C.L. Green (National Veteran Organiser) who was present at the meeting suggested that a nation-wide survey be conducted and only Canterbury women not previously approached, advise of the preference.

Subscriptions: $2.00 per member... $1.00 of this to be paid to the National Veterans Association.

Proof of age; Birth certificates to be submitted for all competing in National events for establishing proof of age.

Appreciation of services: The meeting passed unanimously a motion recording the appreciation of the services of Mr C. C. Gordon in the cause of veteran athletics. Mr Gordon had been President since the inaugural meeting in 1962 and had been active at Centre meetings furthering the cause despite strenuous opposition in the early years. It was due to his efforts that the veteran movement had been established on a firm basis.

At the AGM on the 8th May 1975 Mr C. Gordon was accorded the honour of being the first Life Member of the Club.

New Zealand Womens Veteran Road Championships... It was agreed that these be held in conjunction with the NZ Road Championships to be held in Christchurch October 1975 with a subcommittee formed to make the necessary arrangements consisting of Messrs W. Hobbs, G. Currie, W. Rollo and R. Heseltine and Mesdames May, Tennant and Heseltine.

Finance The Club's balance in the POSB was in a healthy position having been boosted by a surplus from the International T&F meeting held at New Brighton prior to the Xth Commonwealth Games in January 1974.

15th AGM held on 6th May 1976 - Mr W. Hobbs presided. He raised the question of the fact that the Veterans Athletes Association was not official in status and that the National Cross Country Championships were still unofficial after 7 years of competition. The matter had been raised at the last AGM of NZAAA but Canterbury had not received any syupport from other centres. One difficulty in the Association's lack of status had become obvious in connection with the 1st World Veteran T&F Champs held in Toronto, Canada in July 1975. No support financial or otherwise could be made available by Government and leave with or without pay was impossible to obtain in the circumstances. Mr A. Grayburn had first hand experience of this as a competitor at the 1st World T&F Champs, he supported the President's remarks and stated that in his opinion the time was opportune for the establishment of an official National Veteran Athletes Association, moving that the club write to Mr C. Green stating our views and strongly recommending that some action be taken immediately to having an official NZ Veterans Association set up. This motion was carried unanimously.

Snow on the hills and low temperatures did not prevent these veterans from turning out in the Takahe to Akaroa relay 1966.

(L to R) J. Drew, D. Jackson, A. Rodger, C.Goldsmith, C. Gordon
L. Fox, J. Richards, F.Dukes, E. Griffiths

Doug Jackson (left) and Alex McPherson

Lead the field out of the Marist Harrier Club's annual Port Hills Relay in 1970

First Canterbury Veteran Records: Mr A. Grayburn produced records which he had compiled from results of the previous 4 years and it was agreed that these become the Offical Canterbury records.

Publicity: It was mentioned that publicity prior to and following the 1st National Veterans T&F Champs was very poor considering the interest taken by the public. Results were available for the newspapers but were not printed for reasons unknown.

Changes were made in conditions for choosing the winner of the Clarrie Gordon Trophy presented annually.

Report on AGM 15 May 1978 Members stood in silence in memory of the late Mr L. Fox who had been Patron of the Club for the past 4 years.

World Veteran Games 1st held in Toronto, Canada 1975. 2nd Sweden 1977. Discussion was held regarding the Games being held in New Zealand with preference for 1981. Mr A. Grayburn expressed the opinion that it could be the greatest thing to happen here in Christchurch if a bid was successful. An investigating committee was formed consisting of Messrs J. Smart, J.D.Macdonald, W.Hobbs, A. Grayburn, J.K. Macdonald, Mrs C. Tennant and Miss B. Turbott. Mr J.D. Macdonald expressed concern at the confusion between the names of the Canterbury Veterans Athletes Club and the T&F section with separate subscriptions. This matter to be put on the agenda for the incoming committee.

7th September 1978.... Extraordinary meeting to combine both sections of the Veterans Club. Mr W. Hobbs moved that at the AGM in May 1979 a parent body be elected consisting of President, Secretary, Treasurer and committee of four...2 representatives of Road Runners and Cross Country and 2 Track and Field representatives. There would be one subscription for the whole year.

Mr John Macdonald reported on the progress of the investigating subcommittee formed in an endeavour to secure the 4th World Veteran Games for Christchurch in January 1981. With the 3rd World Games to be held in Hannover, Germany in July 1979 it would be necessary for New Zealand to put forth their bid at the delegates meeting. Support had been obtained from Mayor Hamish Hay, Sir Ronald Scott, Mr Alan Barrett and Air New Zealand.

Canterbury Veteran Records: Miss Barbara Turbott agreed to continue compiling the records set by members of their performances made at Canterbury or NZ Veteran Championships.

Track and Field Section Meeting venue. Between 25th November 1976 and 15th March 1979 we were indebted to Iris and Charlie Bishop for providing their central city premises for all committee meetings. The delicious suppers they served were a mark of their generous hospitality and were always an enjoyable part of the evening.

Notice was given that at the AGM to be held in Knox Presbyterian Church Hall on the 18th April 1979 the committee elected would bring together under one governing body the winter and summer committees.

Officers elected: President: J.D. Macdonald
Vice President: A.E. Grayburn
Secretary: C.M. Grayburn
Treasurer: R.J. Heseltine
Committee: I. Bishop & M Lusty (T&F) W. Hobbs & J.K.Macdonald (Cross Country & Road Runners)

Plans were progressing towards the staging of the bid for the 4th World Games to be presented at the 3rd World Games in Hannover, Germany July 1979. QE2 stadium had been booked in anticipation of the success of the bid. Application for a Government grant through the Ministry of Recreation was being sought and help was expected from Air New Zealand. The four delegates chosen to present the NZ case were Messrs C. Green, A. Grayburn, J.K. Macdonald and Miss B Turbott.

Numbers of registered veteran athletes in New Zealand has grown to 534, 70 being from Canterbury by this date.

Following the success of the bid to stage the 4th World Games in Christchurch January 7-14, 1981 two special general meetings were held inviting all athletes to attend as much organisation in setting up of sub-committees is envisaged.

In view of the fact that the Invercargill track would not be ready for National Championship 1980 a switch would be made to QE2 Park on 29-30 March 1980. When entries closed on 26.2.1980 212 entries had been received, this being a record number of competitors intending to take part in a National meeting.

From the profit made at the National Championships a 100 metre tape and starting pistol were purchased. $500 was given to the 4th World Games Committee on the basis that if the Games made a profit the money was to be returned to the Club. With the excellent number of athletes competing in the National Champs, cooperation from Officials and efficient running of the meeting, this proved to be favourable in the organising of the world event some 10 months later.

For many years veteran athletes have willingly given up their time to act as officials at the Saturday meetings of the Canterbury Centre NZAAA. At a committee meeting held on 22.7.1980 Mrs Iris Bishop was congratulated on being awarded an Executive blazer from the Canterbury Centre in recognition of her services to the sport. The strength of the Veterans movement was evident in the tremendous support by athletes throughout New Zealand attributing to the success of the 4th World Veteran Games staged in Christchurch 7-14 January 1981. The hard work undertaken by local veteran athletes for months and in some cases, years previously in preparation added enormously to the overall success and spirit of friendship that prevailed throughout the city of Christchurch. The number of local people who supported the Games by their attendance and assistance e.g. Host-a-Vet hospitality to name one example was a pleasing sight as experience overseas has shown that the sports did not gain local support apart from mainly family and friends.

The veteran movement was recognised in that following the success of the Games the Chairman, J.K. Macdonald was awarded the O.B.E in the Honours List.

A Chronimex timer used at the Games was donated to the Club.

As the number of financial members had grown and to sustain interest, it was agreed a filing system should be set up.

On 26.5.1981 Mr Laurie Blyth had offered to sponsor a newsletter to be distributed through his sports business in the city centre. Records of performances were being kept up on a Card Record System and updated as applications for records were approved.

By 18.8.1981 the Canterbury Veterans membership had grown to 167. It was announced that a profit of $94.000 made from the 4th World Games had been placed in a Trust Fund set up for the purpose of administrating such monies.

The publishing of a Canterbury Veterans magazine, four issues a year was established in 1981 giving excellent communication between members. This in turn led to a Vets magazine on a National Basis being produced locally with the first editor John Kearns continuing his literary skills from the local magazine, handing over the reins to one of his helpers John Gilson when his occupation caused him to move to Wellington.

In August 1985 the National Veterans Cross Country Championships were held locally. Again, the success of the weekend was due in no small part to the Committee and members who generously gave assistance. At the AGM of the National Body a presentation was made of a Life Membership Badge to Mr C. C. Gordon, President of Canterbury Veteran Athletes Club from its inception in 1962 to 1974 and Patron of the Club from 1978 to present day. Mr Gideon Tait, National President was presented with his badge of office.

AGM 13.10.1982. Financial membership now 285

In the election of officers the position of Secretary remained vacant. Merle Grayburn retired after filling the post for over 5 years. She promised to continue until a successor could be found.

Report from the meeting held on 27th October 1982. The President A.E. Grayburn welcomed the new secretary Mrs Gwen Meers. From Timaru it was learnt that preparations were underway for the staging of the 2nd South Island Championships in November.

Donation to Sports Complex: Mr J.K. Macdonald on behalf of the National AVA President, Mr Gideon Tait presented a cheque for $2500 at the launching of the National Sports Foundation Training Centre proposed for QEII park. $2400 for equipment for the complex plus $100 to acknowledge the NZAVA as a foundation member.

A number of veteran athletes had supported the National Heart Foundation run from Cathedral Square on 8th October 1982. A world record attempt on the 100 x 1 mile men and 25 x 1 mile women would be held at QEII on 19th December.

30 Canterbury athletes took part in the 1983 National Championships held in Napier.

Lapel badges purchased to identify the Committee Members to the ever growing club membership are proving to be worthwhile. The first Canterbury representative on the NZAVA Executive - Bruce McPhail was welcomed to the committee meeting held on the 31st August at the home of John and Janet Kearns. He was congratulated on his election to the Executive and in that capacity was invited to become ex officio member of our committee.

Quite a number of athletes were absent when the annual meeting was held on 11th October 1983. The Vice President J.P. King was in the chair. In apologising for the president A.E. Grayburn it was reported that he and many Canterbury athletes were overseas. They had competed in the USA Veteran Championships at Houston Texas before travelling on to Puerto Rico for the 5th World Veteran Games. On the homeward journey a party had run a two day trip in the Grand Canyon and while some continued their holiday others were preparing to run in the New York marathon on Labour Day.

A new club singlet was approved...red with white neck and armhole trim and black lettering to be worn with black shorts.

Notes from the 1984 AGM show the club membership finances and equipment owned has steadily grown. The balance sheet showed there was $1069.70 in the POSB with $2285.52 on fixed deposit. The value of new equipment purchased was $658. The $8 subscription was to cover $6 levy to NZAVA and $2 retained by the club. To identify financial members the idea of dated colour patches was put forward by Ramon McLean. These would be introduced at the beginning of 1985/86 season. In line with inflation the new subscription would be raised to $10 - $7 to NZAVA and $3 for the club funds.

Canterbury now has two representatives on NZAVA Executive. Arthur Grayburn was elected to the Executive at the National Annual Meeting held in Invercargill in August 1985.

Mention has been made frequently of the veterans magazine which is proving to be an excellent means of communication locally and throughout New Zealand. The Canterbury members of the magazine committee have carried the load of the responsibility for the production, editing, obtaining advertising, collating and distribution since its inception.

In Memoriam Mr Gideon Tait, National Patron at the time of his death on 17th September 1985. Gideon had worked very hard to help establish veteran track and field athletics in many parts of New Zealand wherever his occupation in the Police Force had taken him. With his sound knowledge and keen competitive spirit we were honoured to have him as the first President of the New Zealand Association of Veteran Athletes. His presence, help, encouragement and friendship will be sadly missed by all who were priviledged to know him.

The club has seen continued excellent progress maintained under the Presidentship of Jack King. New faces are appearing in the committee ranks with further ideas and innovations being adopted.

A well attended annual meeting held in October 1986 saw Peter Watts elected to the Chair. Ramon McLean moved into the vice president position

with his wife Patricia assuming the roll of treasurer. Gwen Meers continues in her quiet manner as an efficient secretary.

Looking to the future sees the club having one of its busiest domestic seasons ever as it host the

- South Island Championships over Labour Weekend
- New Zealand Track and Field Championships March 1988

In between the 7th World Veteran Games to be held in Melbourne Australia November/December 1987 will see a large contingent of Canterbury Athletes flying the Tasman to compete.

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South Island Championships - Dunedin 1983
Javelin Competitors
Val Hood, Annette Horsnell, Shirley Peterson, Iris Bishop

CROSS COUNTRY & ROAD RACE

The hurdles, frustrations and problems that had seemed insurmountable in the early years to establish veterans running in their rightful place had finally been overcome. At a meeting held on 22nd June 1966 a constitution prepared by Alan Rodger was adopted to form the Canterbury Amateur Athletes Club as we know it today. This removed any official barriers since we were now an affiliated club and that year the first team to officially represent the club competed in the Takahe-Akaroa Road Race finishing 29th of the 35 teams. The nine stalwarts who ran were J. Drew, D. Jackson, A. Rodger, C. Goldsmith, C.Gordon, L. Fox, J. Richards, F. Dukes and E. Griffiths. The photo of the team depicts a happy group of veteran athletes whose dedication had assisted in establishing a milestone for the sport.

Earlier the C.C.C.C. had assented to the holding of a veterans grade within the senior Halswell (now Jane Patterson) Cross Country Race which resulted in a win for Frank Sharp from Clarrie Gordon and Archie Wayman. The first recorded road race result was in the Governor's Bay-Lyttelton Handicap Road Race in which Lionel Fox headed off George Currie and Clarrie Gordon.

John Drew, who was the cross country and road running reporter with the Christchurch Press gave the veterans a big boost by always including the first three veterans places in that newspapers reports. Frank Sharp dominated fastest times for a long period, running his best from aged 48 until his untimely death at 54 years.

The first veteran only road race was the 1967 Governor's Bay to Lyttelton Handicap won by Jack Keys with Alex Sutherland taking fastest time.

The next major advance occurred when Bill Hobbs became the club's delegate and was elected to the Canterbury Cross Country Committee. With his sound judgement and administration skills he found fewer obstacles when pushing for the establishment of separate veteran events arranged at centre level.

The first ever scratch race held in New Zealand was the 1970 Jane Patterson which was won by Bob Flaus from Jack Taylor and Ray Davies. A letter to Mr Clem Green the National Veteran Co-ordinator, requesting a run between Canterbury and Wellington Harriers on the morning of the NZ Cross Country Championships to which veterans from other parts of New Zealand were to be invited in fact became the first NZ Veterans Cross-Country Championship. Canterbury competitors were.. Messrs T. Bain, G.Currie, J.Drew, L.Fox, C.C.Gordon, W. Hobbs, F.Sharp & J.Taylor.

From that point we never looked back and 1971 saw the first official Canterbury Veterans Road Championships won by W. Hobbs from J. Hamilton and F.Sharp. The M50+ grade was won by D. Jackson in the 1971 Holloway Race.

The first national C.C. Championships were held in 1971 but the first provincial Veteran Only C.C. Championships held in New Zealand was the 1973 Canterbury Championships at Cuthbert's Green won by Clarrie Reece from Flaus and Hobbs. Included in this race for the first time was a Teams Race won by Olympic. They have continued to dominate teams running overall largely because their successful runners of the '60s have kept going.

The women's side of our sport started to grow at the same time as New Zealanders became aware of the need to maintain fitness throughout their lives. Gwyn Heseltine had competed in the Pre-Commonweath Games Veteran Track and Field meeting held at Rawhiti Domain, New Brighton 21/22 January 1974. She discussed the possibility of veteran womens' cross country with a number of other including Doris May, Mohau Phillips, and Chris Tennant. Gwyn, a former Canterbury Womens Cross Country champion was carrying a little extra weight at the time and its certain that quite a few women must have thought..."Well if she can run then so can I" and Gwyn encouraged them even though some of them eventually beat her. As a result veteran womens' races started to appear on the programme in 1974. It was decided that the age of veteran women should be 35 years to give them every encouragement and pre-veterans (30 years) were also welcomed.

The first race was in fact on the track an 800metres promoted by the C.C.C.C. followed by a cross country race for the over 30's in conjunction with the Centre Relays both being won by Doris May. The first cross country race proper was promoted by the New Brighton Club as part of the Holloway Races. The first six were Doris May, Annette Horsnell, Camille Reed, Mohau Phillips, Chris Tennant and Daphne Greig. Another milestone had been reached.....this would be the first veteran womens race held in New Zealand and possibly the world.

By 1975 things were well under way with a veteran womens event on the Centre's Jane Patterson programme again Doris May running out the winner from Gwyn Heseltine. As a result of a great deal of pressure from Canterbury, a veterans womens championship was held with the NZ Cross Country races at Wanganui. The local women organised a dinner at the Marshland Tennis Club Hall for veteran men and their wives in order to raise funds so that the un-waged among them could afford the trip. Entries were received from only two women from other centres who reneged at the start but the Canterbury women who competed in this first New Zealand race were... in order of finishing D. May, G. Heseltine, M.Phillips, C Tennant, F.Clark and A. Hendriks. The same year saw the first Veteran Women NZ Road Race held in Christchurch with ten finishers - **1st** D. May **2nd** C. Tennant **3rd** G. Heseltine
Cross Country running and road races for both men and women have moved along in leaps and bounds. On the racing calendar there appear to be more and more races for athletes to choose from throughout the year.

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THE CLUB UNIFORM

For some time there had been discussion on a change in the Canterbury Veterans Uniform. In 1982 Ramon McLean submitted a uniform for use at Veteran Meetings such as the South Island and National Championships. The singlet is red with black lettering and the border is of white trim. Black shorts are to be worn.

The Uniform was approved at a meeting of the Canterbury Centre AAA.

Jack Stuart leads the field in the early stages of the Veterans Marathon 1974. Others in the field are No 10 Robin Heaps, No 14 Charlie McLaren No 17 Bill Rollo with Frank Hamlin of Masterton between 16 & 34 and extreme right John Drew.

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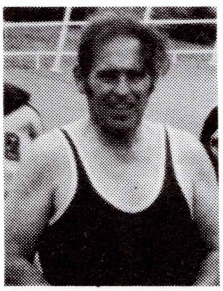
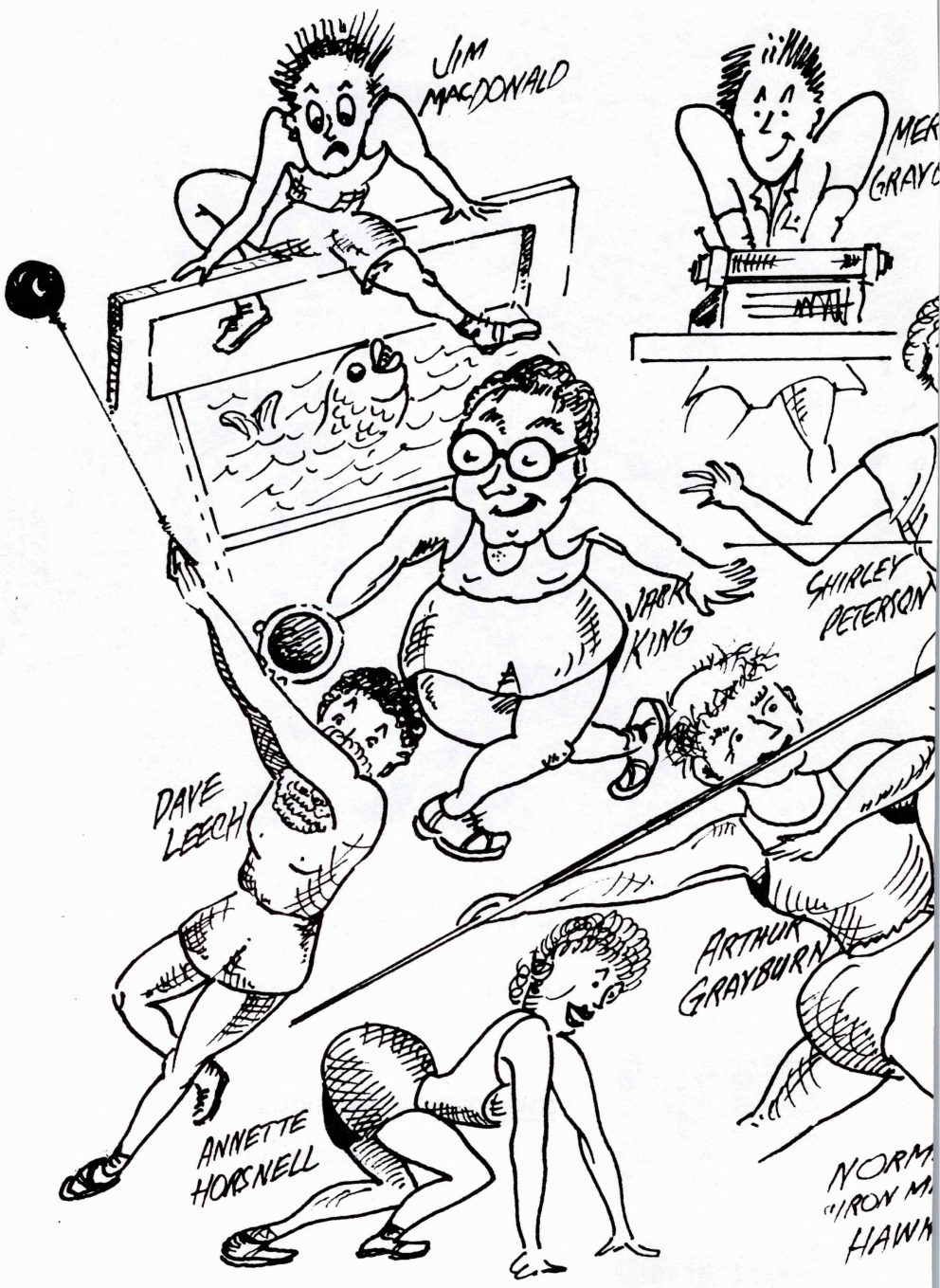


JOHN KEARNS 1st Editor of 'Cant Vets'

wearing Club Singlet


JIM MACDONALD
SHIRLEY PETERSON
JACK KING
DAVE LEECH
ARTHUR GRAYBURN
ANNETTE HORSNELL

VAL
HOOD
JUNE
MILES
DAVE
GIBSON
BRUCE
McPHAIL
CLARRIE
REECE

OFFICE BEARERS

PATRON	J.Deakin (London)	1962-1973
	L. Fox	1974-1978
	C.C. Gordon	1978-
PRESIDENT	C.C.Gordon	1962-1973
	W.L.Hobbs (Cross C)	1974-1978
	W.Rollo (T & F)	1974-1978
	J.D.Macdonald	1979-1981
	A.E.Grayburn	1982-1984
	J.P.King	1984-1986
	P.J.Watts	1986-
SECRETARY	T.H.Bain	1962
	A.V.Rodger	1963-1967, 1972-1973
	G.Currie	1968-1971, 1974-1975
	C.Tennant (Cross C)	1976-1978,
	C.M.Grayburn	1979-1983,
	G.Meers	1983
TREASURER	A.V.Rodger	1962, 1964-1968, 1972-1973
	T.H.Bain	1963
	G.Currie	1968-1971, 1974-1977
	D.Ward (T & F)	1974-1977
	R.Heseltine	1978-1980
	R. McLean	1981-1986
	P.McLean	1986-

FOUNDATION MEMBERS

C.C. Gordon	(President)
T.H.Bain	(Secretary)
A.V.Rodger	(Treasurer)
E.R.Griffiths	
P.R.Tracey	
D.G.Ferguson	
J.W.Dukes	

HON AUDITOR J.G. Cardwell

LIFE MEMBER C.C. GORDON (8.5.1985)

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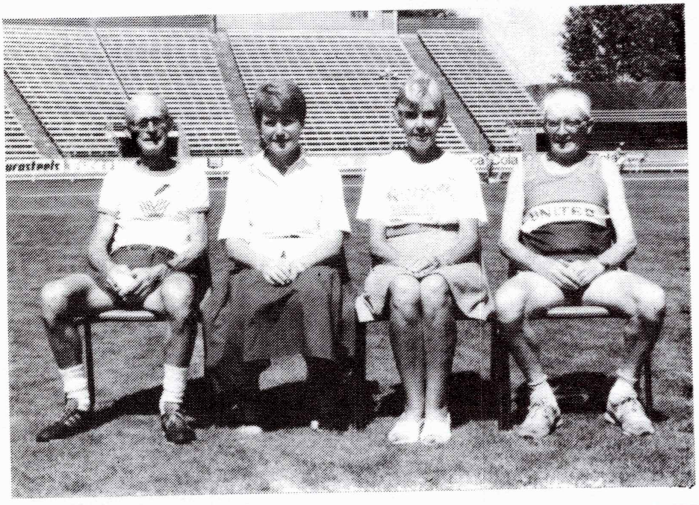
6th WORLD GAMES --- ROME --- ITALY 1985

M45	B.McPhail	3rd 4 x 100 relay	Oceania team
W40	M.Fraser	3rd 4 x 100 relay	Oceania team
W50	J. Miles	1st Cross Country	(37:40.90)
		2nd 5000m	(19:45.69)

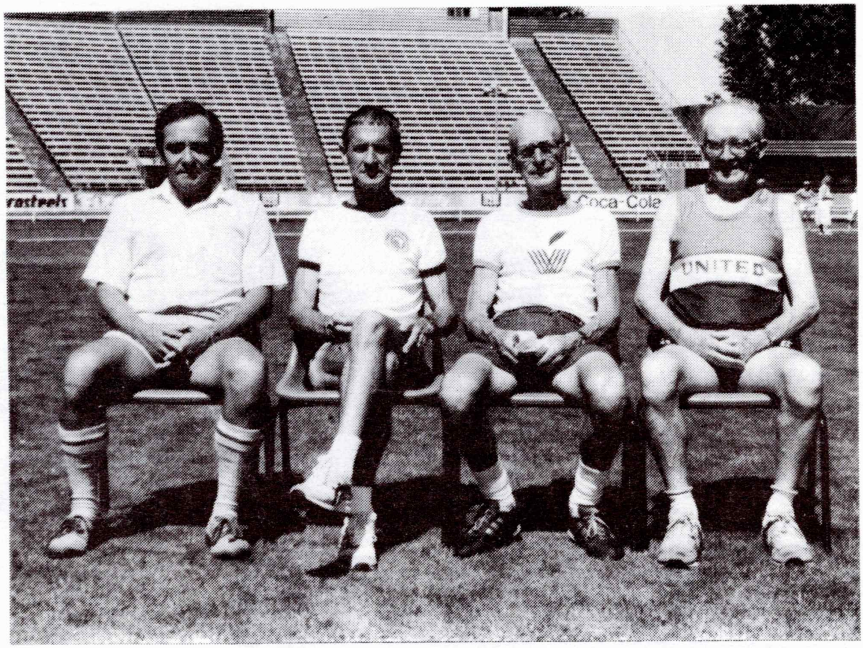
Past Presidents
Back:
Jack King & Clarrie Gordon
Front:
Bill Rollo, Bill Hobbs
Arthur Grayburn



Past Secretaries

Tom Bain, Chris Tennant
Merle Grayburn, George Currie

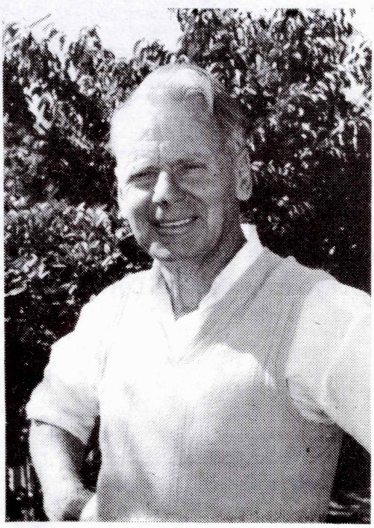
Past Treasurer & Secretary
Bob & Gwyn Heseltine



Past Treasurers
Denis Ward, Ramon McLean, Tom Bain, George Currie

MR J. G. CARDWELL - Auditor

This is an essential position for the smooth running of any organisation. The club is indebted to Mr Cardwell for the faithful execution of this duty as the only auditor appointed in the first 25 years. All members offer their sincere thanks for a marathon effort off the track... Well done.



WORLD RECORD HOLDERS

SHIRLEY PETERSON:	W53	100 metres	13.5sec	1982
		200 metres	29.3sec	1982
	W55	100 metres	13.6sec	1984
		200 metres	29.4sec	1984
	W56	100 metres	13.7sec	1985
		200 metres	28.5sec	1985
	W58	100 metres	14.28sec(Elect)	1987
		100 metres	14.1 sec(Hand)	1987
AUDREY WOOD	W52	High Jump	1.25m	1977
	W54	Long Jump	3.85	1979
ARTHUR GRAYBURN	M50	Javelin (600g)	54.42	1978
	M51	"	51.34	1979
	M52	"	51.68	1980
	M53	"	51.88	1980
	M54	"	52.94	1982
	M57	"	51.06	1985
	M58	"	49.22	1986
JIM MACDONALD	M42	3000m Steeples	9.14.4	1977
	M43	1500metres	3.59.5	1977
		1 mile	4.18.5	1977
		2 mile	9.19.2	1978
	M44	3000 metres	8.41.2	1979
		2 mile	9.28.6	1979
		3 mile	14.33.6	1979
	M45	3000m Steeples	9.36.6	1979
JOHN MACDONALD	M50	2 mile	9.58.2	1984
DAVID LEECH	M59	35lb weight	11.71m	1987
NORMAN HAWKE	M65	Hammer (12lb)	41.52m	1976
	M75	Hammer (7.26kg)	21.68	1987

Back row:
Arthur Grayburn, John Macdonald
Front:
David Leech, Shirley Peterson,
Norman Hawke

INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION

20th - 21st January 1974.....

An athletic meeting for veteran athletes was staged at Rawhiti Domain, New Brighton on 20/21 January 1974. As many overseas visitors were in the city to attend the 10th Commonwealth Games and also from other parts of New Zealand athletes who would assist as officials for the Games had arrived it was an opportune time for competition with an international flavour. It is pleasing to note from the result sheets that quite a number of veterans placed are still in top ranking in their prospective events now thirteen years on.

With the progress and strength of veteran athletics world wide there has been a wealth of international competition since the first World Veteran Games staged in Toronto, Canada, August 1975. Canterbury athletes taking part were Don Cameron, Arthur Grayburn, Jim and John Macdonald and Norman Hawke all competing with distinction and success in their chosen events.

The 2nd World Games were held in Gothenburg Sweden in 1977 followed 2 years later in Hannover Germany July 1979 for the third time. The number of Canterbury athletes travelling has steadily increased along with many from other parts of New Zealand.

A tremendous honour for Canterbury was to have been awarded the task of staging the 4th World Games, January 1981 in Christchurch. Local athletes and citizens alike made a wonderful success of the Games in the true spirit of friendliness with many lasting friendships being established. Congratulations must go to the local organising committee for their stirling efforts not only in administration but also for their competitive prowess.

A record number of New Zealand athletes travelled to San Juan, Puerto Rico in September 1983 and to Rome, Italy, June 1985 and many more athletes are now training in preparation for the 7th World Games to be held in Melbourne Australia in November 1987.

As well as world track and field competition many local athletes have taken part in international road races and also the world renouned New York and Honolulu marathons, Australian and USA Championships.

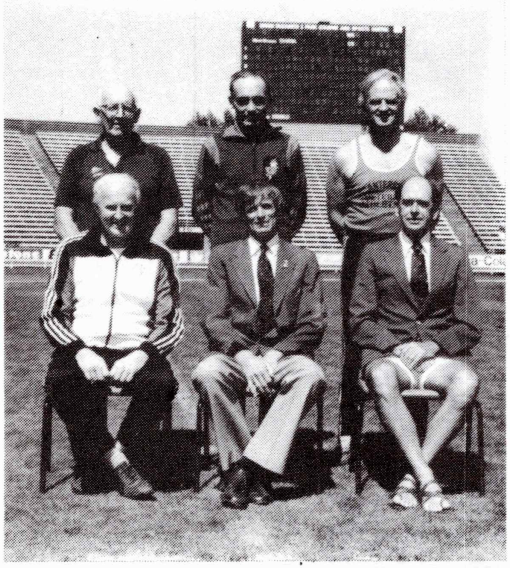
In an endeavour to cater for the athletes of the South Pacific the Oceania Games are held in alternate years to World Games starting in Suva, Fiji in May 1982. Easter 1984 saw the event staged in Canberra, Australia in conjunction with the annual Australian Veterans Championships. The 3rd Oceania Games were held in Apia Western Samoa in September 1986. Canterbury had the distinction of supporting the Games with the largest number of New Zealand competitors, excellent results were achieved including a world record javelin throw set by Arthur Grayburn.

On a smaller scale to cater for veteran athletes throughout the South Island, championships over a weekend late in November have been staged in smaller centres over the past 6 years. Here again sharing knowledge, experience and friendly competition has been the chief aims. Oamaru, Timaru, Nelson, Dunedin, Ashburton and Invercargill have proved worthy hosts since its inception in 1981 and Canterbury Athletes have been excellent supporters each time.

Past President &
World Record Holder

Jim Macdonald

Lindsay Tointon, - Pistol at the ready



Still active members of the
4th World Veteran Games Executive
Back:
L. Tointon, W. Hobbs, R.Ferguson
Front:
A. Grayburn, J. Macdonald, C. Kernahan

INTERNATIONAL VETERANS MEETING - NEW BRIGHTON, 21/22 JANUARY 1974

Results

Men:

Prevet

D. Davison	1st 200m, (24.5) 2nd 100m (11.8)
V.Sykes	3rd 200m, (26.6) 3rd 800m (2.06.6)
I Sim	2nd 800m, (2.05.5) 3rd 400m (55.5)
J.D. Macdonald	1st 3000m Steeples (9.44.6) 2nd 1500m (4.04.8)
J.K. Macdondal	2nd 10,000 (33:20.0)
M. Lusty	3rd 10,000 (38:29.0)
K. Osbourne	2nd 3000m Steeples (9:56.0) 3rd 1500m (4:08.5)

M40

T.Crossen	1st 100m (12.1) 1st 200m (25.4) 1st 400m (57.1)
I.Milne	2nd 100m (12.5) 2nd 200m (25.9)
	2nd 400m (59.2) 1st Triple Jump (10.55s)
R. Heseltine	3rd 100m (13.0) 3rd 400m (59.6)
B. Kerr	3rd 200m (26.6)
M.Poulton	2nd 1500m Track Walk 2nd Triple Jump (8.30m)
R. Fleming	2nd Javelin (18.19m)
D. Cameron	3rd 5000m (16:47.6)

M45

P. Price	1st Long Jump (4.86m) 1st Triple Jump (11.12m)
	2nd High Jump (1.31m) 2nd 100m (13.6)
A.Grayburn	1st Javelin (51.68m) 2nd Hammer (15.92m)
	3rd Shot Put (8.08m)
R. Heaps	1st 400m (61.3) 1st 800m (2.14.4) 3rd 200m (28.3)
J.King	2nd Discus (31.06m) 2nd Shot Put (9.12m)
W.Hobbs	2nd 1500m (4:34.8) 2nd 5000m (16:41.2)
J.Stuart	3rd 10,000m (36:45.0) 3rd 3000m Steeples (12.03.6)
D.Leech	1st Hammer (43.94m) 3rd Discus (26.16m)
T.Sweeney	3rd Javelin (26.38m) 3rd 400m (68.3)

M55

G.Tait	1st Javelin (20.66m) 2nd Discus (26.94m)
	2nd Hammer (33.66m)

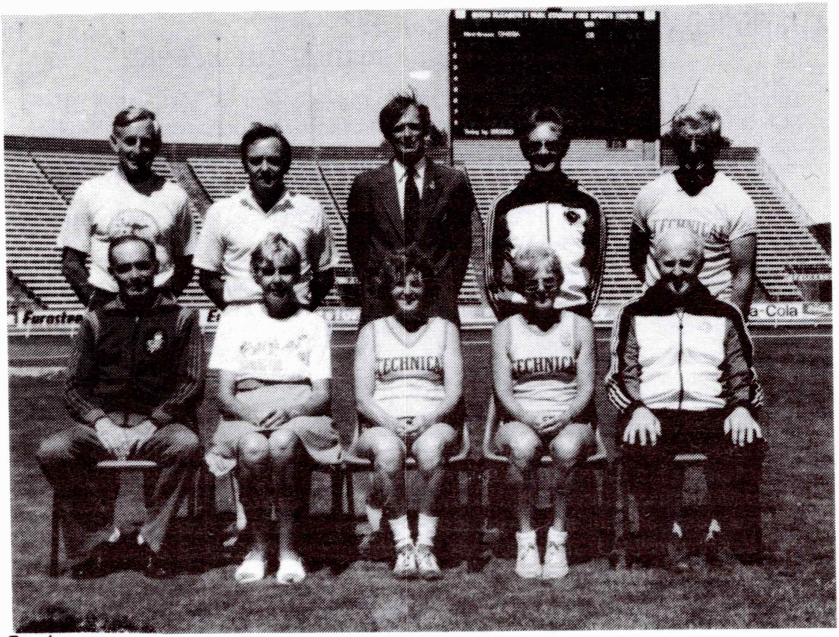
M60

N. Hawke	1st Javelin (25.98m) 1st Discus (25.76m)
	1st Shot Put (10.00) 1st Hammer (36.72) World Record
	3rd 400m (81.3m)
C.Ell	1st 1500m (5.24.3) 2nd 5000m (20mins)
A Wayman	1st 5000m (19:38.0) 2nd 1500m (5:30.7)
C.Walter	3rd 800m (2:52.7) 3rd 1500m (6:05.4)

Women

Prevet

D. Grieg	2nd 100m 2nd 800m (3:31.1) 3rd 200m (39.7)
C.Tennant	2nd 200m (37.0) 3rd 100m 3rd 400m 1:26.1
	3rd 800m 3:41.8



Past:

Back: B.McPhail, D.Ward, J. Macdonald, A. Mahan, J. King

Front: W. Hobbs, M. Grayburn, I. Bishop, A. Horsnell, A. Grayburn

Present:

Back: M. Fraser, T. Leonard, G.Blair, J.Gilson, R.Meers

Front: J.King, G. Meers, S. McKenzie, P. McLean, R. McLean

4TH WORLD VETERAN GAMES

- BEHIND THE SCENES

To write anything about the 4th World Veteran Games I must go back to 1978 when a group of Christchurch veterans met and formed a committee to look at Christchurch's ability to conduct such a sports meeting. This committee's chairman was Bill Hobbs, with Chris Tennant secretary; when Chris travelled overseas John Macdonald filled her post.

None of us had experience in planning an application of this scale, never mind running a sports meeting of this magnitude if successful.

Approaches were made to the Mayor Sir Hamish Hay, Sir Ronald Scott and others, which meant the committee were getting a budget, tentative bookings of Q.E.II and accommodation in hand. The real breakthrough came when I approached a friend, Bill Loffhagan, who was assistant district manager for Air New Zealand, and a week later Bill Davies (promotions manager for Air New Zealand) visited my office. After a discussion he made a commitment that Air New Zealand would be a major sponsor and that they would assist in preparing the bid, which meant working with Barry Turner of Air New Zealand Christchurch. That first committee and those on the games organising committee would have no hesitation in expressing our heartfelt thanks for what Air New Zealand did. In Bill Davies' case it went much further than just carrying out his job with Air New Zealand, it grew on him and became part of him. I for one will always remember Bill, and I consider that Bill's contribution with Air New Zealand was one of the turning points in making a dream for Canterbury veterans come true.

At the NZAVA half annual AGM in 1979 I presented Canterbury's proposals asking for approval for Canterbury to make a bid for the World Games in 1981 and the rest is history.

It was back to Christchurch to finalise material for the bid application. A bid book was produced which was sent to all countries before the Games at Hannover, and a video was made of Christchurch which included clips of Commonwealth Games, venues, universities and recreational activities.

Now it was off to Hannover, where we had the assistance of Sir Hamish Hay, Sir Ronald Scott and Bill Davies. Air New Zealand supplied rooms in a Hannover hotel as a base and information centre for the bid. The information centre was attended at all times and the main workers here were Merle Grayburn and Gillian Macdonald. In fact it was Gillian who was there when the New Zealand Ambassador to Germany Basil Bolt walked in and introduced himself. By the time we arrived back the Ambassador was drinking coffee and had the details of our bid. The Ambassador stayed with us for three full days, he attended the executive meetings where we put our case, the sports stadiums for the competitions, and became one of us. On his final evening he hosted a reception for the New Zealanders and invited the delegates of all countries. His actions I am sure aided our cause greatly. The fact that he made time to come to Hannover and become part of the promotion team and the reception he put on indicated that we had the support of New Zealand and must have had a great influence on our being successful on the night voting was taken.

Veterans who worked for the bid included Bill Hobbs, Chris Tennant Barbara Turbott, Bob and Gwyn Heseltine, Arthur and Merle Grayburn, James (Jim) Macdonald, John and Gillian Macdonald, and many others too numerous to mention.

When we arrived back in Christchurch an Organising Committee had to be set up. This was not easy and many people did not want their training interfered with as competing in the Games was their first priority.

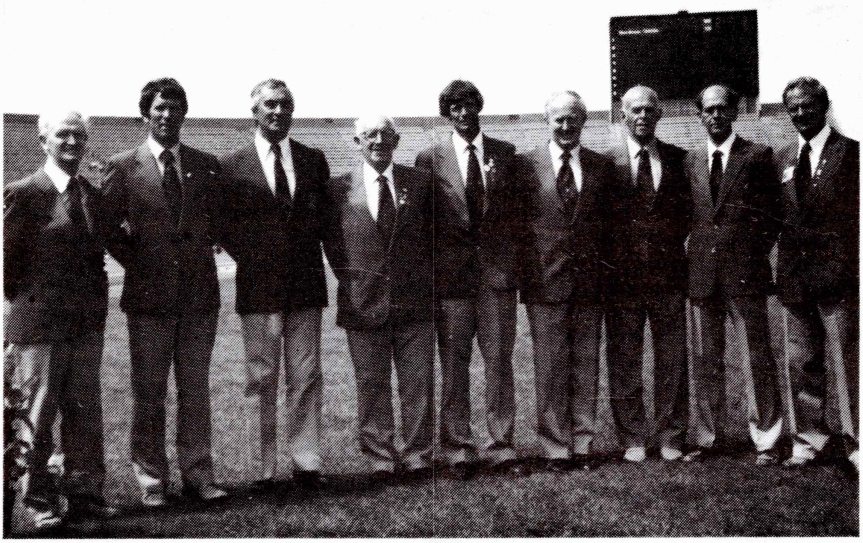
This team had many problems, one of the early ones being that Television withdrew their support of having a sports team at Q.E.II and producing a one hour prime time programme each night. The only place, as you know, was the Games featuring on the T.V. news programme each evening for political reasons but not for sport. With this our hopes for sponsorship looked very poor. In the finish our main sponsors were Niki Shoes, Air New Zealand, G.U.S. who supplied all our computer facilities, for this we thank Jim Miles.

There were times when some of the committee wanted to give up on financial grounds, they said we cannot do it, let's hand it over to another country. We always managed to carry on, but in case some felt they couldn't, a few of us had decided that we would carry on without them on a much smaller scale, but the Games had to go on. But as we knew, no-one really wanted to give it up and the planning carried on. When it really became critical Peter Hames and John Macdonald went to Wellington for a meeting with the Minister of Sport. We came away elated the Games were definitely on, we had a Grant of $40,000 and a guarantee against loss for a further $25,000.

This was the turning point for the organising committee. In the meantime we had acquired Mrs Mat jeson who had offered her services to run the office that Air New Zealand had loaned us. Mrs Mat^eson ran the office and was responsible for us to be able to cope with the entries, accommodation etc. which goes into making up the unseen side of any big sporting event. As we all know everything went very smoothly at Games time. Jim Daly who helped her in the last few weeks had come down from Hamilton to assist. The Games Committee were very pleased with the Games; we thank all those officials who made it possible. Thankyou Diana Robilliard for your "host a vet". There are just so many to thank for their services at the time of the Games, we can only say a big "Thank You". Mention however must be made of our then NZAVA President, the late Gideon Tait. Gid was very supportive and willing to help during the Games, and his help was most appreciated by the Organising Commmittee. For me I found his help most supportive, especially when it came to dealing with the news media concerning the South African problem. (The sporting section of the newspapers did a great job for the veterans.)

Lastly I would like to thank all those on the planning committees, especially the executive committee. It was your time that made the Games and when it is your time I must thank your families for what they must have missed in those two to four years, when you had spent so much time at meetings and carrying out the duties required to make the 4th World Games the success it was.

John Macdonald, O.B.E.
Chairman, Organising Committee



4th World Veteran Games Executive (left to right)
D. Chadderton, R. Woolman, Sir R. Scott, L. Tointon, J. Macdonald,
A. Grayburn, G. Tait, C. Kernahan, R. Ferguson, (absent P. Hames)

1st WORLD VETERAN GAMES --- TORONTO -- CANADA, August 1975

M40	J.D. Macdonald	2nd 3000m (8:42.4) 3rd 300m Steeples (9:36.0)
	J.K. Macdonald	2nd 10,000m (31.49.6) 2nd Cross Country (33.44)
M45	A. Grayburn	2nd Javelin (53:08)
M60	N. Hawke	3rd Hammer (37.98)

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2nd WORLD VETERAN GAMES --- GOTHENBURG --- SWEDEN 1977

W35	B.Turbott	3rd High Jump (1.35m) 3rd Javelin (26.48m)
W50	A. Wood	1st High Jump (1.10m) 2nd Discus (22.38m) 3rd Shot Put (8.89)
M65	N. Hawke	2nd Javelin (33.12m)

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3rd WORLD VETERAN GAMES --- HANNOVER --- GERMANY 1979

M45	J.K. Macdonald	1st 10,000m (32.02.5) 3rd Cross Country (35:11.8)

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4th WORLD VETERAN GAMES --- CHRISTCHURCH --- NEW ZEALAND 1981

M45	J.K.Macdonald	1st 5000m (15:51.70) 1st 10,000m (31:52.70) 2nd Cross Country (33:48) 3rd Marathon (2hr:32.18)
	J.D.Macdonald	2nd 3000m Steeples (9:43.42) 3rd 1500m (4:08.31)
	E. Hunter	2nd Marathon (2hr30.51)
	D.Ward	3rd Long Jump (5:65m)
M50	A. Grayburn	3rd Javelin (49:94m)
M55	C.Kernahan	2nd 800m (2:10.11) 2nd 1500m (4:29.46)
W35	A.Kennedy	3rd Cross Country (42:38)
W40	A. Horsnell	2nd 200m (27.13) 3rd 100m (12.89) 3rd 4x100 Relay Team
	V.Young	1st Shot (13.31) 1st Discus (43.48)
W45	J.Miles	2nd 1500m (5:15.61)
	I.Bishop	1st 4 x 400 relay team 2nd 4 x 100 relay team
W50	S Peterson	2nd 100m (14.42) 2nd Long Jump (4.21)
W55	A Wood	2nd Long Jump (3.74) 2nd Shot (8.98) 2nd 80m hurdles (17.97) 3rd Discus (21.68)

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5th WORLD VETERAN GAMES --- SAN JUAN PUERTO RICO --- 1983

M45	B.McPhail	2nd 200m (23.14) 2nd 400m (52.10) 3rd 100m (11.53)
	J.K. Macdonald	3rd 5000m (15:32.29) 3rd 10,000m (33:27.90)
M55	A.Grayburn	2nd Javelin (47.98m)
	F Aplin	3rd Road Walk (Team)
W45	A.Horsnell	2nd 200m (27.51) 3rd 100m (13.39)
W50	J. Miles	1st 1500m (5:29.60) 1st 5,000m (20:40.48)
	S.Aplin	3rd Cross Country

see Page 24

1st OCEANIA GAMES --- SUVA --- FIJI 1982

M40	R. Aumatagi	1st 100m (11.4) 1st 200m (23.3)
	R.McLean	3rd 5000m (17.09.0)
M45	B.Chant	2nd 1500m (4:37.0) 3rd 800m (2:14.8)
	B.McPhail	1st High Jump (1.50m) 1st Long Jump (5.62)
		1st 400m (54.3) 2nd 100m (11.5) 200m (22.8)
M50	A.Grayburn	1st Javelin (47.66)
	I.Brownie	2nd 5000m (18:04.0)
	B.Kerr	2nd 400m (57.8)

Mens Relay B.McPhail, R.Aumatagi, M. Savage, A. Hill 2nd (46.2)
4 x 100

W.40	V.Hood	1st Javelin (24.98m) 1st Shot (8.92m)
		2nd Long Jump (3.71m) 3rd 100m (16.0)
	A Horsnell	1st Long Jump (3.76m) 2nd Shot (7.43m)
		2nd Javelin (20.16m) 2nd 100m (13.5)
		2nd 200m (28.2)
W45	N.Prentice	2nd Javelin (21.08m) 2nd Shot (6.77m)
	I. Bishop	3rd Javelin (15.77m) 3rd 80m Hurdles (17.6)
W50	S.Peterson	1st Long Jump (4.69m) 2nd 100m (14.1)
		2nd 200m (30.0)

Womens Relay S.Peterson, A.Horsnell, C.Waring, C.Sole 1st (51.8)
4 x 100

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2nd OCEANIA GAMES --- CANBERRA --- AUSTRALIA 1984

M50	R.McLean	3rd 500m (17:15.5) 2nd 10.000m (35:37.89)
M55	I Brownie	2nd 5000m (18.09) 1st 1500m Steeples (5.30)
		2nd 10,000m (37.17.38) 1st Cross Country (39.21)
	A.Grayburn	2nd Javelin (43.78m)
	J.King	3rd Long Jump (4.64m)
	S.Opie	3rd 5000m (18.20) 3rd 10,000m (37.22)
		3rd 10,000m Cross Country (40.18)
	G.White	2nd 800m (2:23.4) 1st 1500m (4:56.0)
M65	H.Cook	3rd 100m (14.6)
W40	G Watts	3rd 200m (31.2) 3rd 400m (71.9)
W45	I Bishop	2nd 80m hurdles (18.2) 2nd High Jump (1.15m)
		3rd Pentathlon 1888 points
W45	J.Tyler	3rd 800m (2:48.9)
W50	J.Miles	1st 800m (2:45.9) 2nd 1500m (5:31.7)
		2nd 5000m (20.31) 3rd 10,000m (49.05)

W55 S Peterson — 1st 100m (13.9) 1st 200m (29.4)
1st Long Jump (4.24) 2nd High Jump (1.11)
2nd Javelin (18.40m)

W60 T.Smith — 3rd 1500m (8.05.0) 2nd 5,000m (29.51)
2nd 10,000m (1hr.07.37)

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3rd OCEANIA GAMES --- APIA --- WESTERN SAMOA 1986

M40 P Woodham — 2nd 5,000m (20:56.00) 2nd 800m (2:39.62)
2nd 1500m (5:19.00) 2nd 10,000m (41:42.0)

M45 P.Watts — 1st 3000m (10:19.00) 1st 800m (2:26.71)
2nd Cross Country (28.10.00) 2nd 1500m (4:54.05)
2nd 10,000m (37.52) 2nd 5000m (18:12.97)

M50 C.Reece — 1st 3000m (10:39.00) 1st Cross Country (29.08)
1st 5000m (18:35.13) 1st 10,000m (39:06)
2nd 800m (2:35.21) 2nd 1500m (5:26.00)
3rd Hammer (13.45m)

M55 G.White — 1st 100m (14.59) 1st 1500m (5:07.00)
2nd Cross Country 2nd 800m (2:38.82)
2nd 200m (30.94) 3rd 400m (1:05.21)

M55 A.Grayburn — 1st Discus (31.60m) 1st Javelin (44.64m)
1st Hammer (18.10m) 1st Shot (11.27m)
2nd Long Jump (3.31m) 2nd High Jump (1.13m)

M60 J.King — 1st Pentathlon 2254 points.
1st Shot Put (10.75m) 1st Discus (31.62m)
1st Long Jump (3.73m)

M60 S Opie — 1st 5000m (18:10.94) 1st 10,000m (37.29m)
2nd 3000m (10:26.48) 2nd 1500m (5:06.00)

W40 T. Woodham — 1st 3,000m (11:54.54) 1st Cross Country (33.49)
1st 5,000m (20:54.05) 1st 800m (2:56.43)
1st 10,000m (43:45m)

W45 G.Watts — 1st Discus (22.90m) 2nd Shot (7.52m)
2nd Javelin (19.02m) 2nd 1500m (6:63.00)
2nd 400m (1:15.57) 2nd 200m (32.67)
2nd 800m (3:13.56) 3rd Cross Country

W50 J.White — 2nd 200m

M Reece — 4th Discus (13.00m)

W55 M.Grayburn — 2nd 1500m track walk (10:53)

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NATIONAL EXECUTIVE

In 1983 a new Constitution for the NZAVA was passed at the Annual General Meeting in Palmerston North and the inaugural National Executive was elected.

Bruce McPhail of Ashburton was elected to the Executive, and assumed responsibility for the Competition and Technical Sub-Committee. Regular meetings by the 10 Executive under President Merv Dunn have been held since then. All aspects of Veteran matters are attended to, with sub-committees covering Finance, Magazine, International, Public Relations, Competition and Technical.

In 1985 Arthur Grayburn of Christchurch was elected to the Executive to fill the vacancy when Alan McKernan of Dunedin withdrew.

Bruce McPhail Arthur Grayburn

TROPHIES

1971 CLARRIE GORDON VETERANS TROPHY

Presented to the club by Don Cameron of the Baptist Harrier Club. In the early history it is recorded that in order to encourage as many veteran runners as possible to compete for the trophy, points would be allocated on a handicap basis from a selection of races. Over the years there have been minor changes to that selection but the winner is virtually the most improved veteran in Cross Country and Road Racing over the season.

1978 PHIL MAY MEMORIAL

In memory of the late Phil May the club purchased a trophy to be awarded to the winner of the M45-49 grade 800metres at the Canterbury Championships. This was a fitting tribute to Phil who along with his wife Doris had been stalwarts of the club for many years.

1979 NORMAN AND MARY HAWKE CUP

Norman and Mary Hawke donated the trophy for the athlete best in field events. Norman has been a dominant figure in the older age group of field events athletes with hammer throwing his speciality.

1979 WOMENS CUP

The Anglican Harrier Club seeing the need for a trophy for women donated the cup to be given to the Most Improved Woman Athlete in Cross Country and Road Races.

1985 GRAYBURN PENTATHLON TROPHY

Arthur and Merle Grayburn have been club members for a number of years. Arthur has had a long association with track and field athletics in Canterbury and is particularly noted for his prowess with the Javelin. Having seen the interest in the Pentathlon grow in recent times and with the introduction of the Age Factor points system it is possible to declare an overall winner for the Pentathlon on the day of competition.

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CERTIFICATES

Throughout the Club's history there have been many and varied types of certificates issued to club members; of special interest is the Merit Certificate given to those members whose performances have been most noteworthy.

Very much appreciated in recent years has been the excellent printing on the certificates by Gary Robb whose skill in using "Old English Text" sets the Canterbury Certificates out as something special in New Zealand.

MAGAZINE

'Cant Vets'

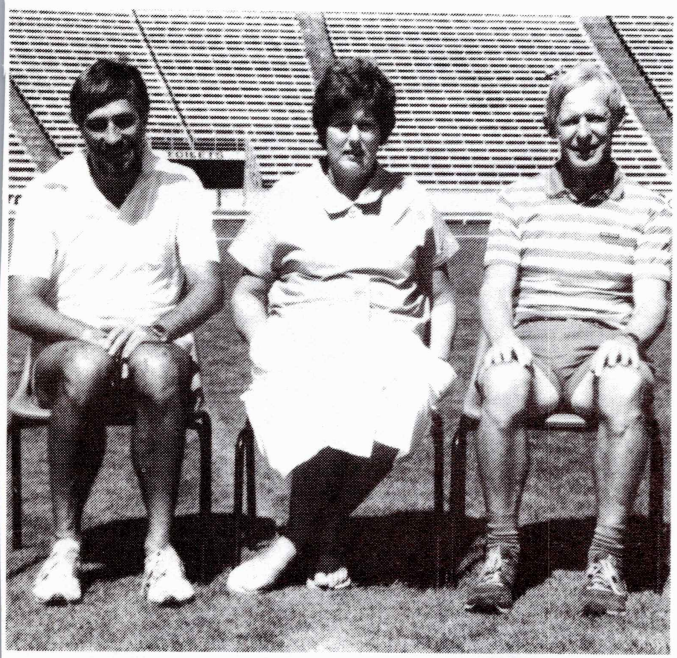
In the early years of the club information was mainly passed on to members by word of mouth or by various club coordinators with occasionally a news sheet.

With the combining of the summer activities with that of the winter under the one committee, news sheets became more vital in keeping the members up to date with news, results etc.

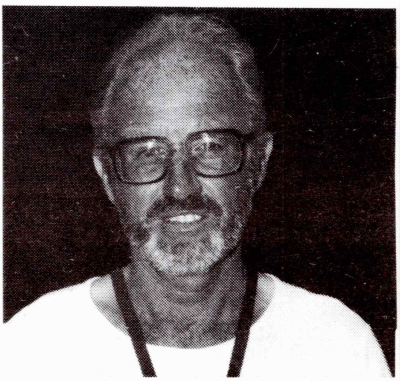
In October 1981 the Club President Jim Macdonald with John Kearns (now in Wellington) produced the first issue of the club magazine 'Cant Vets'. This magazine contained notices, articles, race results etc. and proved to be very popular with the members. To keep the costs down limited advertising was accepted and a team of 'volunteers' !! pounded the streets delivering the magazine to the club members living nearby. John Gilson took over the editorship and production from June 1984.

After two years the magazine team took over the production of the National Magazine and produced a supplement with local news as the 'Cant Vets' went out of circulation.

With the production of the National magazine...Vetline...moving to Hamilton (June 1987) there will be a need for a Canterbury Magazine to be produced by a **'keen team'** eager to keep the club thriving for another 25 years.



John Gilson Paula Gilson Terry Leonard



John Paterson

ULTRA LONG DISTANCE ....Don Cameron

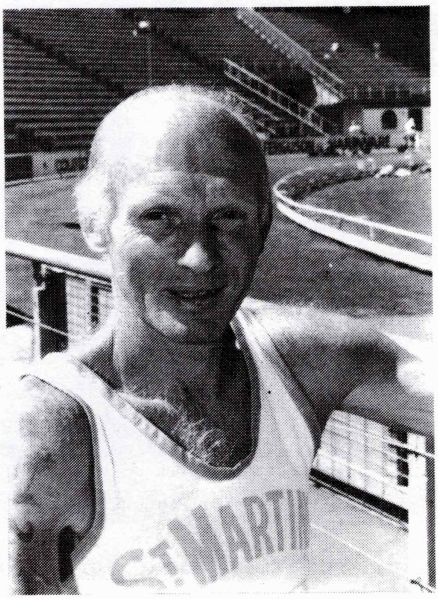
In the annals of New Zealand Long Distance Running the feats of Don Cameron reign supreme. His efforts have become legend and no veteran booklet would be complete without recording some of his excellent performances over the past 20 years.

In latter years Don has assisted many athletes in distance running through his marathon clinic. He intends taking a group to run the original marathon course from Marathon to Athens finishing at the original Olympia Stadium.

December 1968	- Canterbury best performance 24 hour track race Ruapuna Park...114 miles.
November 1972	- In the first Auckland to Wellington Road Race gained 3rd place in 4 days, 12 hours and 43 minutes.
November 1st, 1973	- Sydney to Melbourne via the Princess Highway 664 miles Broke Tony Raffety's record by 6½ days. New record of 10½ days.
October 29th 1974	- Length of New Zealand record... Bluff to Cape Reinga 23 days 7 hours 25 minutes. Broke John Young's record by 10 days. Age 43 at the time still a Veterans Record.
March 1975	- Founder and one of the organisers of the First City to Surf Jog.
April 5th, 1975	- Winner of the New Brighton 50 miles.
October 1977	- Symon and Lowther 100km Fun Run now the "Port Hills 100km run"
June 1978	- The first Sedley Wells Mid Winter Marathon.. now "The City of Christchurch Marathon".

DON CAMERON

reflecting on.....



RELAYS

In 1981 Jim Macdonald placed a short article in the Canterbury Veterans Magazine outlining the efforts of English Veteran Athletes who had recently set a World Record in which 100 different runners each ran a mile; time was 8 hours 45 minutes 21 seconds.

After throwing out the challenge a date of Sunday 24th January 1982 was set for the attempt by members of the Canterbury Veteran Athletic Club. The event was organised by Jim Macdonald and attracted considerable interest both from the athletes and media; the result was a time of 8 hours 54 minutes 1 second.

The Auckland Veterans heard of our relay and quickly organised one for Mt Smart Stadium; they were successful in lowering the world mark and are still holders of it today.

We were not to be denied and a second 100 x 1 mile relay was organised. Unfortuntely some late withdrawals affected the overall strength and although we recorded a fine time of 8 hours 53 minutes 47.05 seconds it still was not enough. On the same day our ladies established a new World Time of 4 hours 28 minutes 7 seconds for the 40 x 1 mile.

During those balmy days of 1982-83 the club made several attempts at the 10 x 1 mile relays and at one stage the club was the proud holder of:

Men 40....	48 minutes 21.9 seconds	- a World Record
Men 45....	52 minutes 29.7 seconds	- a World Best Performance
Men 50....	51 minutes 44.3 seconds	- a World Record
Men 55....	61 minutes 44.9 seconds	- a World Record
Men 60....	68 minutes 5.3 seconds	- a World Record
Women 35....	60 minutes 4.8 seconds	- a World Record
Women 45....	69 minutes 59.4 seconds	- a World Record

After a spell of a few years the time may now again be ripe to renew our interest in these relay events!! Why not 1988???

Margaret Fraser chooses her lane draw from Marksman, Clarrie Gordon

THE PENTATHLON

With the rapidly increasing number of athletes taking part in many events it was natural progresion for the club to stage the Pentathlon.

This was held at Rawhiti Domain New Brighton in 1979 and the event was not only a Canterbury first but also the first held in New Zealand for veteran athletes.

Since that time the event has had a firm place on the club's calendar usually January or February each year. The venue has varied from Rawhiti to Ensors Road, Tech Club Headquarters, English Park, QEII and lately Ashburton.

The events in the Pentathlon are...

Men: Long Jump
Javelin
200m
Discus
1500m

Women - The womens events have been changed a little from those originally held and now consist of
100metres
Long Jump
Javelin
Shot Put
800 metres

The **WEIGHT PENTATHLON** was introduced in 1986 and held at Rawhiti Domain. This event which has been keenly contested by both men and women consists of of the ...

Discus Javelin Shot Put
Hammer 25lb or 35lb weight

Points are awarded out of the I.A.A.F. points table.

Competitors at Ashburton - 1987

WORLD ROAD CHAMPIONSHIPS

The World Association of Veteran Long Distance Runners, briefly called World IGAL have programmed a calendar of annual events until 1990, taking the Championships to all different parts of the globe. "IGAL" is from the German "Interessen Gemeinschaft Alterer Langstrecken Laufer". The term has been retained as a tribute to the early influence of the German movement and of their leaders, such as the late Arthur Lambert and Dr Ernst Van Aaken, strong advocates by theory and example of the concept of competitive sport of distance running for veterans as a source of health giving exercise.

Since 1968 Annual Championships, centering in Europe at first, have been held in different parts of the world, building a strong base and nucleus for the furthering of the ideals.

The Annual World Championship events are generally held on road at distances of 10,000 metres and 25km; and 10,000 metres and marathon on alternate years. This rota, though well established, is not stipulated by Constitution and, if desired, can be altered at the discretion of the promoting country in consultation with World IGAL. The motif ∞ (infinity; unending), well chosen by the early founders, forms part of the logo. The motto is "Universal Fitness and Friendship".

Bolton, England, 1979

For Canterbury runners, the first opportunity to compete in the IGAL Championships was in Bolton, England. On his way to the World Track & Field Champs in Hannover, John (J.K.) Macdonald travelled to Bolton having left New Zealand a week before the main kiwi track contingent.

The main reason for John's visit was to plead the case for the 1981 IGAL Championships to be held in Palmerston North. History records John's bid as successful; as was a more concerted effort in Hannover resulting in two world championships coming to New Zealand in 1981.

Less well known, was John's 6th placing in the 10km Road Race. In fine weather and based on a town circuit the race was of great benefit for John's Hannover events a week later.

Palmerston North, New Zealand, 1981

Canterbury was not very well represented in the 14th IGAL Championships in Palmerston North in January 1981. The majority of runners were obviously saving themselves for the World Track events in Christchurch a week later. However, in warm conditions on a slightly undulating University based course, Eric Hunter won the Gold Medal in the M45, 25km Race.

Clarrie Reece finished 10th in the same event. Eric was also a member of the winning team. Other Canterbury runners competing were - Mike Temu, Stan Jelley and Bob Eathorne.

Both the 10km and 25km races were well organised and hospitality first class. These events were well supported by overseas and local runners.

Lake Kawaguchi, Japan, 1982

Despite floods following a typhoon the day previously, Canterbury runners competed with distinction, on a varied multi lap course circumnavigating Lake Kawaguchi at the base of Mt Fuji.

John (J.K.) Macdonald ran extremely well to win the 10km, M45 title, as did Don Greig who finished 6th in the same event. In the Marathon, Mary Hawkins was placed 5th in the W50 grade, while Clarrie Reece (4th M50) and John Macdonald (6th, M45), ran well despite sleeping the previous night on the floor of a Japanese Royokan. Other Canterbury competitors were Daphne Greig, Stan Hawkins, Bob Heseltine and Ron Sloan.

World Class distance competition combined with a magnificent course in ancient surroundings made the 15th IGAL Championships a memorable occasion.

San Diego, U.S.A. 1984

Three Canterbury Athletes took time out to attend the 17th IGAL Championships while travelling with a Christchurch Road Running Tour group.

High Motel tariffs in Southern California's Mission Bay, led to Don Cameron and Cyril Rigby sharing a double bed in a quest to seek realistically priced accommodation!! More comfortable conditions were to be experienced in the marathon however, and resulted in Don and Cyril finishing 15th and 23rd respectively in the M50 grade.

Bettina Greig a member of the Olympic Club, ran in the 10km event. Athletes from 20 visiting countries enjoyed both the racing and the social events that followed.

Lytham St. Annes, - England 1985

On their way to the World Track and Field Championships in Rome, two Canterbury Veteran Athletes travelled to Blackpool for the 18th IGAL 10km and 25km Championships. These events were held just a tram ride away from Blackpool's famous Tower in the Esplanade township of Lytham-St-Annes.

Joan Tyler ran well to finish 15th in the 10km event, while Clarrie Reece competed in both the 10km and 25km events. Both events were held on single lap, out and back loop courses embracing both seaside villages and country lanes. The weather was of typical English Summer variety including strong cold north westerly winds with sunless grey skies.

Unfortunately results for both races were incomplete, owing to a computer error, with no grade results at all for the 25km race.

CALENDAR FOR FUTURE IGAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

Israel 1987

Korea 1988

Applications pending for India 1989

Hamilton, New Zealand, 1990

We reflect with gratitude the work of the founders in establishing Veteran Athletics in Canterbury. With sincere thanks to all who have helped in the past we look forward with added strength and enjoyment to the years ahead.